



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

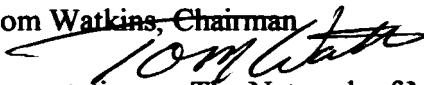


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PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

September 27, 2004

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Tom Watkins, ~~Chairman~~ 

SUBJECT: Presentation on The Network of Michigan Educators

The Network of Michigan Educators has formed as an outgrowth of the Michigan Milken Educator Network. This network has been expanded to include a broader representation of Michigan's recognized educators including: Michigan Teacher of the Year Program, Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, Milken National Educator Award, National Board Certification, Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Program, Partner Educators, Michigan Elementary/Middle School Principal of the Year, National Distinguished Principal (Michigan), Michigan Secondary School Principal of the Year, and Michigan Superintendent of the Year.

The group decided to form a Network in December 2003, and a Steering Committee of 16 has met three times since the December conference. There has been a significant amount of individual and small group efforts in between the three formal meetings. The group has adopted a set of operating guidelines, chosen officers, and established three very active leadership teams. It will meet again on October 12, 2004 and come together on December 9-10, 2004, for the major recognition banquet and conference.

This has become an outstanding, energetic, productive group of professional educators who are committed to collaborating with the State Board and the Department in improving education in Michigan. The Network Leadership Teams are focusing on: Action/Study Teams (using an adult learning model for effective professional development for educators); Communications; and Policy Support. A draft Network Policy Response Form has been developed for the Board's review. This form would be used to provide a weighted value opinion related to a specific question or policy issue posed by the Board to the Network. Members of the Network will make a presentation to the State Board regarding the Network and the Policy Response Form.

The development of this group thus far is truly inspiring. The members are eager to serve and to be heard. They are eager to learn and to grow. They are eager to make a difference with Michigan students and teachers.

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**Example**

# the Network Of Michigan Educators

## Network Policy Response

Response requested by	Michigan State Board of Education or The Superintendent or the MDE Legislative Liaison, or The Senate or House Education Committee or ??
Policy Statement Subject	Providing value weighted opinions to policy makers
Date	August 25, 2004
Group polled	The Full Network
Number responding	239 (out of a possible 434)

**Statement:** (adapted from a request for opinion)

Agree or disagree that The Network of Michigan Educators should develop an immediate response process by which Network members can be polled and the results shared with requesting policy makers using the continuum printed below.

### Network Response

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
100%	%	%	%	%

**Who/What is The Network of Michigan Educators?** The Network represents a broad diversity of educators who have been recognized through the following programs: Michigan Teacher of the Year Program, Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, Milken National Educator Award, National Board Certification, Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Program, Partner Educators (Partnership for Success Program), Michigan Elementary/Middle School Principal of the Year, National Distinguished Principal, Secondary School Principal of the Year, and Superintendent of the Year. The **Network Mission** is to connect, enable, and engage the diverse gifts of its membership for the advancement of high achievement and excellence for Michigan students and educators.

**How is a Network Response Developed?** When The Network of Michigan Educators is asked to review and respond to issues in Michigan Education, a response to a statement and/or position is reviewed by the Network Steering Committee and/or a Network Action/Study Team. This statement and/or position is communicated to appropriate Network members who express their response on a continuum From Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree. Once gathered, the response is communicated to appropriate policy/decision makers as percents of the membership on the continuum.



Collaborative Partners Working To Improve Education In Michigan

the Network  
Of Michigan Educators

